

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 3 ^{9/3/2} 1. A method of managing processing groups of a
4 distributed computing environment, said method comprising:
- 5 comparing at least a portion of a state of a
6 prospective member of a processing group with at least
7 a portion of a group state of the processing group;
- 8 updating said at least a portion of the state of
9 said prospective member, should said comparing indicate
10 a difference; and
- 11 joining said prospective member to said processing
12 group.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 quiescing activity to said group state; and
- 3 retrieving said group state after quiescing
4 activity, for use in said comparing.

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1 3. A system of managing processing groups of a
2 distributed computing environment, said system comprising:

3 means for comparing at least a portion of a state
4 of a prospective member of a processing group with at
5 least a portion of a group state of the processing
6 group;

7 means for updating said at least a portion of the
8 state of said prospective member, should said comparing
9 indicate a difference; and

10 means for joining said prospective member to said
11 processing group.

1 4. The system of claim 3, further comprising:

2 means for quiescing activity to said group state;

3 and

4 means for retrieving said group state after
5 quiescing activity, for use in said comparing.

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1 5. At least one program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of
3 instructions executable by the machine to perform a method
4 of managing processing groups of a distributed computing
5 environment, said method comprising:

6 comparing at least a portion of a state of a
7 prospective member of a processing group with at least
8 a portion of a group state of the processing group;

9 updating said at least a portion of the state of
10 said prospective member, should said comparing indicate
11 a difference; and

12 joining said prospective member to said processing
13 group.

1 6. The at least one program storage device of claim 5,
2 further comprising:

3 quiescing activity to said group state; and

4 retrieving said group state after quiescing
5 activity, for use in said comparing.

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